

Official Minutes for Webb County Commissioners Court Meeting

Monday, June 13, 2005 at 1:00 PM and
continuing Tuesday, June 14, 2005 at 1:00 PM

(Approved 07-11-2005)

- Item No. 1 Call to order by Judge Louis H. Bruni
Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 1:00 p.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Louis H. Bruni	County Judge
Frank Sciaraffa	Commissioner, Pct. 1
Judith Gutierrez	Commissioner, Pct. 2
Jerry Garza	Commissioner, Pct. 3
Cynthia Brunner	Commissioner, Pct. 4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the Agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 5th and 6th of May 2005. Present also were Ms. Nora Elia Prado, Deputy County Clerk representing Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various officers and others interested in the business of the Court.

- Item No. 2 Roll Call – Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Webb County Clerk

- Item No. 3 Pledge of Allegiance – Led by All

- Item No. 4 Approval of minutes – April 18, 2005 and May 9, 2005

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 5 Approval of bills, payroll and monthly reports

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, presented his monthly report to the court. He stated that the General Fund was currently at 16.75% (\$904,000 over the required 15%). He stated that at the time the report was made, the Sales Tax revenues were not available but stated that he has received them and that though the account has gone over the budget in sales tax revenues, the amount collected for May is less than what was received the previous May. He stated that the total revenues for this fiscal year are at 80% while the expenditures are at 60%

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to accept the Monthly Auditor's Report. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Cortez-Brunner motioned to move up Item No. 18. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 18 Presentation by Laredo Independent School District regarding forthcoming LISD bond election.

Mr. Amezcua, Mr. Jesus Guerra and Mr. Michael Alvarado were present to address the court regarding the upcoming bond issuance election. Mr. Amezcua stated that the primary cost of these bonds would be covered by the State (80% state, 20% local). He stated that the monies would be used to renovate several older buildings as well as dedicate monies to the athletics and fine arts programs. Mr. Guerra stated thanked the court for the opportunity to address the court. He stated that the bonds would be approximately \$60 million and was critical to needs of the district. He stated that several of the district's projects are nearing completion. He appreciated the court's endorsement of the importance of going out to vote. Mr. Alvarado stated that during the last bond election held in 1999, only two thousand voters cast their vote.

Cmr. Gutierrez stated that she is a resident and former student of L.I.S.D. and sees the need to have a lot of the older buildings renovated or repaired. She stated that the children need to know the importance of education and that this would show our commitment to them and that we care about the schools they attend and what they learn.

Item No. 6 Communications

Judge Bruni expressed his condolences to the family of Sgt. Robert Arizola who died in action last Thursday. He also expressed his condolences to the family of George L. Garcia, brother of Councilman Garcia, who passed away suddenly last Saturday. He also expressed his condolences to the family of Mr. Richard L. Goodman, cousin of Mr. Ronnie Goodman, who passed away recently.

A moment of silence was observed.

Cmr. Gutierrez stated that she recently attended a city council meeting for a presentation on a joint application for the colonias on Hwy 359. She stated that a report was presented by Turner and Collie. She stated that they would like to amend the application to the Water Development Board to carve out those properties who have not given ROW's or easements to the county. She stated that this would allow them to bypass those properties to providing water and sewer service to those that have already signed the ROW's or easements. She stated that the City Council would be instructing Mr. Kenneth Kendall of Turner and Collie to follow through with this course of action.

Cmr. Garza stated that he wanted to address the issue of border security due to what has been occurring in Nuevo Laredo. He thanked the court for voting to give the Sheriff the necessary resources to be sure that the deputies are properly equipped and protected.

Sheriff Rick Flores stated that the Federal Government is on high alert and that the Mexican federal government has moved into Nuevo Laredo to try and stabilize the ongoing violence in Nuevo Laredo.

Cmr. Garza stated that he was pleased to announce that he will be debuting a show on Public Access Channel 13 about the Commissioners Court and county departments. He stated that the program will highlight what county services are available to the public and will begin airing on June 15. He invited elected officials and department heads to come on the show and inform the public of any services or events that they wanted the public to know about.

Cmr. Cortez-Brunner wished all the dads a Happy Father's Day.

Item No. 7 Public Comment

Mr. C.Y. Benavides, III, was present to address the court. He stated that he felt that there were too many restrictions on Item No. 7, Public Comments, which in turn restricted the public's ability to address any issues that they may have. He requested that this item be placed in future meetings as an action item so that the public can interface with the court on any concerns that they have. He stated that this would allow the public and court to work out their issues right then and there instead of waiting for someone to place the item on the agenda.

Judge Bruni stated that the court adopted the procedures for the public comments and stated that whenever Mr. Benavides had an item he would like to discuss, that he would be happy to place the item on the agenda.

Mr. Smith was present to address the court. He stated that due to the hiring procedures currently in place, the county has been subject to lawsuits several times. He stated that a Human Resource department would help alleviate many of these headaches. He stated that it was no secret the Cmr. Gutierrez's secretary received a monetary settlement from Webb County after her lawsuit for wrongful termination, a settlement that was paid using taxpayer's monies. He stated that nothing has been done to clear Mr. Francisco Gonzalez's name or what the status on the investigation. He stated that he hoped that the court could stop for a moment and do some soul searching about what they would do if the same thing happened to them.

Mr. Anthony Peterson was present to address the court. He stated that if the employee was unjustly terminated and was vindicated, he did not see any problem with re-hiring them. He stated that if the termination was due to criminal activity or something of a serious nature, he felt that they should not be rehired. He stated that something needed to be done about the Public Comments since the public should be given the opportunity to address items that concern them whether or not they are on the agenda.

Mr. Mario Zaragoza was present to address the court. He stated that the Human Resource department needed to be established in order to alleviate any head aches and felt that this would settle any concerns that may arise.

Ms. Maria T. Gutierrez was present to address the court. She stated that she was grateful for the opportunity to come before the court to address her concerns. She

congratulated Cmr. Garza for his upcoming program and wants for him to also have the public on his show so that their concerns can be addressed. She stated that an injustice was done to Mr. Francisco Gonzalez and stated that Cmr. Gutierrez was a danger to the court. She questioned Cmr. Gutierrez's favoritism towards Ms. Alice Medina, her former secretary, as well as Ms. Juanita Puente who was her current secretary. She stated that Cmr. Gutierrez was the one that decided to terminate Mr. Gonzalez and that she had too much power in the court. She stated that the reason that Cmr. Gutierrez pushed for Mr. Gonzalez's termination was to make room for Ms. Medina and she stated that the residents were not going to tolerate this.

Cmr. Gutierrez stated that it was an injustice to allow herself to continue to be verbally assaulted by Ms. Gutierrez without having the opportunity to defend herself. She stated that she did not have the power that Ms. Gutierrez alleged that she had and that the termination of Mr. Gonzalez was a unanimous decision by the court. She stated that she understood that Ms. Gutierrez was a friend of Mr. Gonzalez and was upset by his termination but stated that it takes a majority vote by the court for any action to take place. She stated that she disagreed with Ms. Gutierrez's comments and would not tolerate any further verbal abuse.

RECESS (2:26 PM to 2:38 PM)

Mr. Rene de la Viña was present to address the court. He stated that he was a civil rights activist and wanted to address Item No. 10 and No. 14. He stated that he came before the court approximately one year ago fighting for employee's rights and to request that he be placed on the Employee Grievance Committee. He stated that the main reason for the number of lawsuits filed against the county are due to the politics that are being played in the county. He stated that the employee's are scared to speak up due to fear of retaliation. He stated that he would be willing to set up a free workshop, at no cost to the county, for county employees to teach them how to protect themselves from political abuse. He stated that until the players are changed, the script will remain the same. He stated that he wants the court to be fair in the hiring process for a HR director and wants that person to be strong, stand their ground and stand by their decisions. He also advised the court that there is a law that stated that someone who criticizes or threatens the court and its members can be removed from the building for up to one year. He stated that Martin Luther King, Jr. once stated "The time will come when silence will no longer protect you."

Mr. Armando Treviño was present to address the court. He stated that he wanted the court to be aware of some of the history regarding Item No. 84. He stated that the 20 acre tract of land in question has a water/sewer system but was not connected to the Rio Bravo water system. He stated that they are asking for direction and assistance from the court on this matter.

Mr. Rodriguez was present to address the court. He stated that he was given a commercial zoning for his property but cannot do anything until this matter was resolved. He stated that he wants for a temporary power line to be put in place due to the number of break ins that have occurred on his property.

Item No. 8 Report by Webb County delinquent tax attorneys on their recent disposition of tax delinquent tax suits against several entities, with

discussion and possible action to direct the same to file action as appropriate against responsible party(s) for the recovery of delinquent taxes.

Judge Bruni stated that he has reviewed this case with private tax attorneys and is requesting copies of everything that has been filed and actions that have been taken. He stated that the decision to drop the lawsuit was premature and feels that there were several missed opportunities to recover the owed taxes. He requested that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

Judge Bruni motioned to defer this item. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 9 Discussion and possible action to approve Webb County's matching share of \$4000.00 for a City/County co-sponsored Youth Summer Counseling Camp for "at risk" students; Webb County's share for a City/County co-sponsored summer program for troubled kids (Account #001-0109-6022; Professional Services).

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 10 Discussion and possible action to modify county hiring policies so as to prohibit the hiring of any would be county employee who has been a Webb County employee prior to his/her application for a county position, and whose separation from Webb County in the prior employment occurred under adverse or disputed circumstances, such as being fired, and where the former employee/applicant brought a claim against the County, as arising out of the prior employment separation, and with a subsequent settlement and/or award to such employee.

Judge Bruni stated that this item was not meant as a way to pick on elected officials who let employees go but that his focus was on county employees fired due to a just reason or cause. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that he had some concerns about the wording of this item. He stated that this item goes counter to Federal and State laws as well as the constitution. He stated that if approved, this would only apply to those departments under the purview of the Commissioners Court. He requested that this item be tabled so that he can review it and make an appropriate recommendation.

Judge Bruni motioned to table this item. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 11 Status report on road improvement efforts in the Pueblo Nuevo Subdivision with as per the court's prior directives, with emphasis on the selection for improvement of certain roads over others within that subdivision, with discussion and possible action to direct staff to take measures as necessary to complete the task, and any other matters incident thereto.

Judge Bruni stated that certain roads in Pueblo Nuevo have been repaired and others have not. He stated that he was informed that the equipment was being utilized elsewhere and stated that he wants all the roads fixed. Mr. Jose Luis Ramos, interim Road and Bridge Superintendent, stated that East and West Ybarra and East Myers were approved for repairs at the last Commissioners Court meeting and have been completed. Judge Bruni stated that according to the minutes of several meetings, all the roads were to be fixed and if he was mistaken, he would like to add four additional roads that remain unrepaired.

Judge Bruni motioned to repair all the roads in Pueblo Nuevo. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion with discussion.

Cmr. Sciaraffa questioned the roads that needed to be repaired as well as an estimated cost for the repairs. Cmr. Gutierrez stated that it was important to get the ROWs necessary to repair the roads. She stated that the law doesn't allow for public monies to be used to repair private roads. She stated that there are 38 lots in Pueblo Nuevo without ROWs and feels that repairing those roads without ROWs does not give the residents an incentive to sign the easements needed by the county. She commended those employees working on ROW acquisition and asked the court for patience.

Cmr. Sciaraffa withdrew his second. Motion died for lack of a second.

Judge Bruni motioned to table this item. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 12 Discussion and Possible action to instruct staff to conduct a feasibility study for locating the permanent morgue on Webb County property located on highway 59.

Cmr. Gutierrez stated that Item No. 64 was a related item and requested that they be taken together.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to take Item No. 64 together with Item No. 12. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 64 Discussion and possible action to solicit proposals for the purchase of 2-3 acre site for the Webb County Morgue.

Cmr. Gutierrez stated that she would like for the site to be close to the local hospitals.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted but to exclude the old detention center as a possible site. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 13 Discussion and possible action to create an International Trade Advisory Committee.

Judge Bruni stated that this committee was needed and overdue.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Judge Bruni stated that each court member would appoint someone and that the committee would be under the purview of the court. He stated that his appointee would be Dr. Hector Farias.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 14 Discussion and possible action to fill slot #1526, Deputy Director, of Department #0120, Human Resources (salary to be set at Court's discretion).

Cmr. Sciaraffa stated that Webb County is one of the only counties without a Human Resource Department. He stated that Webb County continues to grow and that the hiring procedures needed to be more organized and standardized. He recommended that the court appoint Mr. Cayetano Tijerina, III, effective June 14, 2005. He stated that Mr. Tijerina was a graduate of Texas A & M Kingsville with a degree in sociology and a retired education with 20 years experience.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to appoint Mr. Cayetano Tijerina, III as Deputy Director, Human Resource Department, effective June 14, 2005. Judge Bruni seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza stated that he could not agree more with the need for this department and stated that he would like to set up a workshop to outline the functions of the department. Cmr. Gutierrez stated that she felt that Mr. Tijerina would do a great job and stated that she has known him for many years. She stated that she would like to see a wage scale established and to have salary increases based on merit instead of just across the board. She stated that an extensive study was conducted several years ago that set a proposed wage classification schedule. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner inquired whether there were any other applicants for this position. Judge Bruni stated that he was unaware of any other applicants but that this position was the deputy director position, not director. Cmr. Sciaraffa stated that the salary for this position was \$39,012 and that RFQs would be solicited for the Human Resource director position.

- Item No. 15 Status Report on the renovation of the Azteca neighborhood facility with discussion and possible action to direct staff to submit a timetable for the completion of same, and to take measures as necessary to ensure timely completion of the renovation project, and any other matters incident thereto.

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, stated that this project was approved on April 25th and a walk through inspection was conducted on Friday, June 10th. He stated that the job has been completed and is only pending the replacement of some broken windows that have been ordered by maintenance. He stated that it should be ready to be moved into by tomorrow. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner stated that she would like to do one more walk through tomorrow at 1:00 PM.

- Item No. 16 Status report on environmental survey on the previous dipping site on Mines Road

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, stated that the geotechnical and environmental phase II have been completed / are pending. He stated that he will bring an item before the court due to some additional costs for testing.

Cmr. Cortez-Brunner motioned to move up Item No.45, No. 73, No. 74, No. 75, No. 76 and No. 77. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 45 Discussion and possible action to approve a decorating agreement with Foster's for various artwork and decorative plants for the William N. Hall Administrative Building in the amount of FORTY-NINE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$49,900.00) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Capital Outlay Fund 658 Series 2003]

Judge Bruni motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 73 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfers:

From: 001-2600-6022	Professional Services	\$ 20,000
To: 001-2060-6401	Repairs & Maintenance Buildings	\$ 20,000
From: 001-2600-6202	Uniforms	\$ 6,200
To: 001-2060-6205	Materials & Supplies	\$ 6,200
From: 001-2600-5601	Administrative Travel	\$ 6,000
To: 001-2001-6205	Materials & Supplies	\$ 6,000

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 74 Discussion and possible action to accept a FY 2005 Citizen Corps grant program award from the Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) and the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) in the amount of \$10,234 for the implementation and sustainment of applicable Citizen Corps Program activities to include Neighborhood Watch and Volunteers In Police Service (VIPS) programs and authorizing the County Judge to act as the County's Executive Officer and Authorized Representative in all matters pertaining to the County's participation in the FY 2005 Citizen Corps Council grant program.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 75 Discuss and possible action to authorize the submission of an application for a 2005 Secure Our Schools (S.O.S.) grant program to the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), U.S. Department of Justice to establish and enhance the security training of personnel and students in order to encourage the continuation of school safety efforts within the Webb County community, and authorizing the County Judge to act as the County's Executive Officer and Authorized Representative in all matters pertaining to the County's participation in the 2005 COPS S.O.S. grant program. The fifty (50%) percent cash match will be provided by the Webb Consolidated Independent School District.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 76 Discussion and possible action to approve a transfer from the Park Development Pct. 3 Acct no. 695-6004-8710-3 Series 2002, for \$4,900.00 to Capital Outlay Series 2002 Acct no. 696-4101-8801, to purchase IHC Indigent software for the Webb County Sheriff's Department to pay inmate related medical bills at indigent rates.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Mr. Rick Flores, County Sheriff, thanked Cmr. Garza for the monies needed to purchase the software. He stated that he also wanted to thank those doctors that have worked with his office as well as given discounts for services rendered. He

stated that the previous administration spent 70% of the medical expenses budget in only three months.

Item No. 77 Discussion and possible action to request funds for the following line items in order to continue operation for this fiscal year:

001-2001-6204	Fuel & Lubricants	\$46,000.00
001-2062-6714	Medical Services	\$183, 000.00
001-2062-6209	Medicines	\$50,000.00
001-2001-6403	Repairs & Maintenance Vehicles	\$24,000.00

Judge Bruni motioned to approve item as submitted.

Comr. Gutierrez inquired as to the funding source for this item. Mr. Raul Casso, Chief of Staff, stated that the funding source has not been identified and that the monies needed to be located and brought back to the court. Mr. J.J. Gonzalez, Sheriff's Department Comptroller, stated that there were several vehicles in need of maintenance and fuel and that the Fuel & Lubricants and Medicine line items should be at \$0 by the end of the week. Mr. Casso stated that it might be possible to fund Line item 6204 and 6403 from Road and Bridge and 6714 and 6209 from Indigent Health Care funds.

Judge Bruni motioned to approve 6204 and 6403 only. Comr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Comr. Gutierrez motioned to move up Addendum Item No. 4. Comr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Addendum
Item No. 4

Staff update on the increase of the inmate per diem for the Webb County Sheriff's Department.

Comr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Comr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Court was advised that no vote was taken for Item No. 77.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent. (Vote for Item No. 77)

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, stated that a jail cost study was completed and that the daily cost for housing an inmate was \$61.00. He stated an increase in per diems from \$41.00 to \$43.00 would increase revenues by approximately \$500,000 if approved by the Marshals. He stated that the court should receive a status within several weeks.

Item No. 17 Discussion and possible action to designate authorized drivers of the Commissioners Court Suburban.

Cmr. Garza stated that he understood that Mr. Carlos Villarreal would be responsible for assigning use of the vehicle. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner stated that court members should have priority over department heads and other elected officials. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that there is a policy in place that states that employees must go through a qualification procedure prior to using a county vehicle. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner thanked her father, former Cmr. David R. Cortez, for his donation of the vehicle.

Cmr. Cortez-Brunner motioned to have Mr. Carlos Villarreal assign use of the vehicle. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

MEDIA BREAK (3:36 PM to 4:20 PM)

Cmr. Garza motioned to move into the Addendum. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Addendum
Item No. 1

Discussion and possible action to enter into a lease agreement to begin June 13, 2005 through May 2, 2010 for Lot Number Six (6) in Block Number Eleven (11) in the Western Division of the City of Laredo, for a nominal fee of ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00), for parking facilities for the Villa Antigua Project (Webb County Heritage Museum) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents and any matters incident thereto.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Addendum
Item No. 2

Discussion and possible action to accept ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) from the International Bank of Commerce through the Webb County Heritage Foundation for the construction of improvements upon Lot Number Six (6) in Block Number Eleven (11) in the Western Division of the City of Laredo, being the proposed parking and ancillary facilities for the Villa Antigua Project.

Mr. Joe Castro and Ms. Juanita Donovan thanked the court for opportunity to partner on this very important project.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Addendum
Item No. 3

Discussion and possible action to enter into a construction contract with Zertuche Construction, L.L.C. for the renovation/ preservation/ construction of the Villa Antigua Project (Montemayor House, 810 Zaragoza Street, Lots 7 and 8, Block 11, and construction of the adjacent parking facility being Lot 6, Block 11 both in the Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County) in the amount of ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIVE DOLLARS (\$1,118,305.00) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez stated that the funding for this item was already allocated and available.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to move into Executive Session. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (4:27 PM to 5:46 PM)

Judge Bruni reconvened the meeting and stated that no action was taken while in Executive Session. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, recommended that the items being presented by Mr. Jim Allison of Allison Bass & Associates (Item No. 85 – 88) be taken first since Mr. Allison had to return to Austin.

Item No. 85

Discussion and possible action regarding claims of Webb County concerning payments made on behalf of County Court at Law Judges for FICA taxes for the period of January, 1996 through February, 2000, and all matters incident thereto. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Jim Allison of Allison, Bass & Associates, stated that this matter has been fairly and adequately resolved. He stated that in January 1994, the County Treasurer at the time failed to withhold the employee and county's share of Social Security taxes for the County Court at Law judges at the time. He stated that this omission was not discovered until six years later and the Social Security Administration required that Webb County pay the entire share. Two of the County Court at Law judges have remained on the bench and continue to make their contributions, but Judge Raul Vasquez has since then moved onto to become a District Judge and lost benefits for 1995 and 1996 since he now contributes to the State retirement fund and not Social Security. He stated that they have agreed to a settlement of \$5,000 to be paid by

Judge Vasquez. Judge Vasquez stated that he has worked hard on this item and requested that the court accept the settlement. He stated that he has never had a problem with paying the taxes owed but wanted the amount to be fair and equitable. He stated that by accepting the settlement, he would release the county from any liability that there may be due to the release of confidential information regarding his Social Security contributions.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to accept the settlement. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 86 Discussion and possible action regarding Cause No. 2004-CVQ-001441-D4; Honorable Delia Perales, Webb County Treasurer, vs. Webb County, Texas, et al.; In the 406th Judicial District Court of Webb County, Texas. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Jim Allison of Allison Bass & Associates stated that no action was required.

- Item No. 87 Discussion and possible action regarding Cause No. 2004-CVQ-000450-D2; Martha Escamilla and Maria Gloria Gonzalez, plaintiffs, and Webb County, intervener plaintiff, vs. the City of Laredo, defendant; In the 111th Judicial District Court of Webb County, Texas. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Jim Allison of Allison Bass & Associates stated that no action was required.

- Item No. 88 Discussion and possible action regarding SOAH Docket No. 582-04-0975; TCEQ Docket No. 2003-0729-MSW; In the Matter of the Application of Regional Land Management Services, Ltd. for Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Permit No. MSW-2286; Before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (concerning application for Type 1 Municipal Solid Waste Permit – Ponderosa Regional Landfill) and any matters incident thereto. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Jim Allison of Allison Bass & Associates stated that no action was required.

- Item No. 79 Discussion and possible action to enter an Order of the Court determining the public necessity for, and that the public welfare and convenience will be served by, the acquisition of a tract of land containing 11,167 square feet, more or less, being out of Porcion 66, Abstract 478, Blas Trevino, Original Grantee, Webb County, Texas out of a 17.0 acre tract identified as Tract Number 1-B, and Webb County's

intention to acquire said real property as part of the Webb County Water Facility construction project (to be used for the County water treatments plant's raw water intake structure and raw water pump station), and to further establish and approve the amount determined to be just compensation for acquisition of said real property and authorizing a written offer to the owner of said real property for acquisition at the full amount determined and established to be just compensation and to designate County personnel to negotiate with said owner on behalf of the county and that the county judge is authorized to execute all documents necessary to acquire said real property on behalf of the county and authorizing the appropriation of funding to effectuate the purchase of property. [Executive Session requested pursuant to §551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property.]

Mr. Nathan Bratton, Assistant County Attorney, stated that the fair market value was \$4,244. He recommended that the court designate the County Attorney's office and Mr. Raul Casso, Chief of Staff, to negotiate further if necessary.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 80 Discussion and possible action regarding employment grievance filed by former Webb County M.I.S. Director Guillermo Garcia. Closed session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that the recommendation of the Grievance Committee was to uphold the termination. He stated that no action was necessary for this item.

Item No. 81 Discussion and possible action regarding grievance of former Webb County Road and Bridge Superintendent, Jose Luis Rodriguez. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that the recommendation of the Grievance Committee was to uphold the termination. He stated that no action was necessary for this item.

Item No. 82 Discussion and possible action regarding grievance of former Webb County Indigent Services Director Alice H. Medina. Closed session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters).

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that he was advised by Ms. Medina that she no longer sought reinstatement as IHC Director. He stated that the recommendation of the Grievance Committee was to uphold the termination and reinstate Ms. Medina's Sick Leave hours (333 hours) and consider raising her present salary to the amount of her prior position at the next budget cycle.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to accept the Grievance committee's recommendation and reinstate Ms. Medina's accrued Sick Leave (333 hours) at the time of her separation. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 83 Discussion and possible action regarding Civil Action No. L-05-CV-129; Gregorio J. Castañeda, Jr., d/b/a Castañeda Bail Bonds v. Webb County Sheriff Rick Flores, Individually & in his Official Capacity as the Sheriff of Webb County, and Webb County; In the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Laredo Division; including authorization to employ and pay an attorney to represent Sheriff Flores pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §157.901. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that this was a new litigation filed against the Sheriff and Webb County. Mr. Rick Flores, County Sheriff, requested that the county engage Melish Christian to represent him in this litigation. Mr. Ramirez stated that he would continue to represent Webb County even if Melish Christian was engaged. He stated that it was not necessary to set a salary cap since a monthly invoice was to be submitted and represented to the court.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to engage Melish Christian to represent Mr. Rick Flores, County Sheriff, in this litigation. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 84 Discussion and possible action requesting a legal opinion from the County Attorney regarding the County's legal interest in Javier Street from Salvador Garcia Middle School to Modular Blvd. and Modular Blvd. from Javier Street to Hwy 83 South. Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, requested authorization to employ legal means to assert the county's interest, if any, on this property and stated that he would bring a report to the court within 30 days.

Judge Bruni motioned to accept Mr. Ramirez's request. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 19 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfers from Pre-Trial Services.

FROM:

001-1205-6022	Professional Services	\$ 9,000.00
001-1205-6205	Materials & Supplies	\$ 500.00

TO:

001-1205-5002	Inc. Pay	\$ 2,000.00
001-1205-5005	Part time	\$ 7,000.00
001-1205-6017	Print. & Supp.	\$ 500.00

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 20 Discussion and Possible Action to modify slot # 1809 (CEAP Clerk), \$8.42/hr., from Part-Time to Regular Full-Time with benefits, effective June 14, 2005. Funding comes from Comprehensive Energy Assistance Contract (CEAP). (No Impact on General Fund.)

- Item No. 21 Discussion and Possible Action to accept a \$100.00 donation from Falcon International Bank. Every year, our Agency celebrates "Community Action Agency Month". Donations are requested and the money is used for our yearly Senior Citizens Fiesta Picnic.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve Item No. 20 and No. 21 as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 22 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-2500-6205	Materials & Supplies	\$800
To:	001-2500-6014	Equipment Rental	\$440
	001-2500-6402	Repairs & Maintenance Equip.	\$360

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 23 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-2503-6402	Repairs & Maintenance Equipment	B\$700
To:	001-2503-6403	Repairs & Maintenance Vehicles	

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 24 Discussion and possible action to order an exemption from competitive bidding requirements pursuant to Section 262.024 (a) (c) of the Local Government Code and enter into natural gas supply contract for a five year period with Proviron, Inc. for the Webb County Water and Wastewater Facilities located in Rio Bravo, Texas and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 25 Discussion and possible action to enter into an agreement with the City of Laredo for public health services for a one year period to begin October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006 at an annual cost of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000.00) fifty percent of which is payable upon execution of the agreement and the balance payable on June 1, 2006 and authoring the County Judge to sign all relevant documents and any matters incident thereto.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, stated that the county paid \$175,000 last year and this year showed an increase of \$75,000. He stated that the city wants the county to pay ½ the salary of a sanitation worker and animal control officer. He recommended that the court offer the \$200,000 for a four (4) year contract.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve a four (4) year contract at \$200,000. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 26 Discussion and possible action to approve a maintenance agreement with IBM for M. I. S. servers, printers and tape drives for a period of one year in the amount of FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED EIGHT DOLLARS (\$56,508.00) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by MIS Dept. Acct. # 001-0500-6402]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 27 Discussion and possible action to accept one (1) right-of-way, out of Laredo Ranchettes, Inc. Subdivision, one (1) right-of-way out of Pueblo Nuevo Subdivision, 2 rights-of-way out of Ranchitos IV-Los Minerales Annex, one (1) right-of-way out of Ranchos Penitas West Subdivision and 2 rights-of-way out of Los Centenarios Subdivision, and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 28 Discussion and possible action to enter into a work order agreement with SBC Data Comm not to exceed NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$9,500.00) for equipment and installation of a telephone and voice processing system for the Webb-Zapata County District Attorney Multi-Agency Task Force, and authorizing the county judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by the Webb County Purchaser, Account No. 297-1100-8410 (Equipment) and 297-1100-6224 (Minor Apparatus & Tools)]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 29 Discussion and possible action to enter into an equipment lease agreement for a thirty-six (36) month period (June 13, 2005 to June 12, 2008) with Toshiba America Information Systems, Inc. for a Toshiba E-Studio 810 Digital Copier and accessories to be located at the Webb County District Attorney's office at a monthly cost of FOUR HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE DOLLARS AND THIRTY-SEVEN CENTS (\$491.37) for a total of SEVENTEEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE DOLLARS AND THIRTY-TWO CENTS (\$17,689.32) over the term of the agreement and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by District Attorney's Office, Account No. 001-1100-6014 (Equipment Rental)]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 30 Discussion and possible action to enter into an Equipment Maintenance Agreement with Office Communications Systems, Inc. for one (1)

Toshiba ES 810 Digital Copier for the District Attorney's Office for a thirty-six (36) month period (June 13, 2005 through June 12, 2008) with copy overages invoiced at (\$.0085) per print copy and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County District Attorney, Account No. 001-1100-6402 (Repairs and Maintenance)]

- Item No. 31 Discussion and possible action to enter into an Equipment Maintenance Agreement with Unitech Business Solutions, Inc. for a thirty-six (36) month period (June 13, 2005 through June 12, 2008) for one (1) Copystar CS3035 Digital Copier to be located at the Webb-Zapata County District Attorney Multi-Agency Task Force office at a monthly cost of THIRTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$32.00) with costs of overages of (\$.008) per copy for a total of ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$1,152.00) over the term of the agreement and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb-Zapata County District Attorney Multi-Agency Task Force, Account No. 297-1100-6402 (Repair and Maintenance Equipment)]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve Item No. 30 and No. 31 as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 32 Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (June 13, 2005 to June 12, 2006) maintenance agreement with Nevill Business Machines, Inc. for a Kyocera KM-4035 Digital Copier for a monthly amount of THIRTY-TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS (\$32.50) and with overages at \$0.0065 after five thousand (5,000) copies for a total of THREE HUNDRED AND NINETY DOLLARS (\$390.00) over the term of the agreement and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Economic Development, Account No. 001-0104-6402 (Equipment Maintenance)]

- Item No. 33 Discussion and possible action to enter into an equipment lease agreement for a twelve (12) month period (June 13, 2005 to June 12, 2006) with General Electric Capital Corporation for a Savin 2535 Copier and accessories located at the Webb County Treasurer's office at a monthly cost of ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR DOLLARS AND TEN CENTS (\$184.10) for a total of TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND NINE DOLLARS AND TWENTY CENTS (\$2,209.20) over the term of the agreement and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Treasurer, Account No. 001-0300-6014 (Equipment Rental)]

Item No. 34 Discussion and possible action to enter into a maintenance agreement with Dahill Industries for a twelve (12) month period (June 13, 2005 through June 12, 2006) for one (1) Savin 2535 Copier for the Treasurer's Office at a monthly cost of ONE HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY CENTS (\$107.20) with copy overages invoiced at (\$.0103) after ten thousand (10,000) copies to total THREE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-NINE DOLLARS AND TWENTY CENTS (\$3,859.20) during the term of the agreement and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Treasurer, Account No. 001-0300-6402 (Repairs and Maintenance)]

Item No. 35 Discussion and possible action to enter into a land lease agreement with the City of Laredo for two (2) years (August 1, 2005 through July 31, 2007) for approximately 1.0128 acres, located at 4704 Naranjo Street for a monthly rent of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$1,862.00) for a total of FORTY-FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT DOLLARS (\$44,688.00) over the lease term and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Head Start Program, Account No. 903-4207-6012 (Space Rental)]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve Item No. 32, No. 33, No. 34 and No. 35 as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 36 Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (May 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006) Lease Renewal agreement with the City of Laredo International Airport for approximately 1000 square feet of office space constituting Building S-3 located at 1703 Sandman Street at a monthly rental fee of FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY DOLLARS AND TWENTY-FIVE CENTS (\$420.25) for a total cost of FIVE THOUSAND AND FORTY-THREE DOLLARS (\$5043.00) over the lease term, and authorizing the County Judge to Execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Head Start, Account No. 903-4207-612 (Space Rental)]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 37 Discussion and possible action to enter into a third contract amendment between Webb County, for the Community Action Agency,

and CPL Retail Energy, LP for the "Neighbor to Neighbor" program whereby CPL Retail Energy LP provides funding to Webb County CAA to assist the needy pay home energy expenses, and authorizing the county judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Community Action Agency, Account No. 907-4202-6201 (Utilities)]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Sciaraffa not present for voting.

- Item No. 38 Discussion and possible action to enter into an agreement with Paul Young Company to act as an agent of the Tax Assessor-Collector in the issuance of motor vehicle license validation stickers and license plates and in the application for new vehicle titles to further public convenience and wherein agrees to lease one (1) "Remote Sticker Printing system (RSPS) Dealer Title Application (DTA) Equipment" from the State of Texas, through the Webb County Tax Assessor-Collector, at an annual cost of SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$600.00) a year for a total cost of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) over the lease term and authorizing the Webb County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Tax Assessor-Collector]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Sciaraffa not present for voting.

- Item No. 39 Discussion and possible action to enter into an agreement with Sames Motor company to act as an agent of the Tax Assessor-Collector in the issuance of motor vehicle license validation stickers and license plates and in the application for new vehicle titles to further public convenience and wherein agrees to lease one (1) "Remote Sticker Printing system (RSPS) Dealer Title Application (DTA) Equipment" from the State of Texas, through the Webb County Tax Assessor-Collector, at an annual cost of SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$600.00) a year for a total cost of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) over the lease term and authorizing the Webb County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Webb County Tax Assessor-Collector]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Sciaraffa not present for voting.

- Item No. 40 Discussion and possible action to approve rental of one LPG tank in the amount of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$120.00) per year (to be located at lift station#1 3704 Jimenez St., in El Cenizo, TX near Riverbank.) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Water Utilities Department Equipment Rental 801-3003-6014 or Equipment Maintenance 801-3004-6402]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Sciaraffa not present for voting.

- Item No. 41 Discussion and possible action to approve rental of one LPG tank in the amount of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$120.00) per year (to be located at lift #2 1990 Espejo Molina, Rd., near El Cenizo, TX) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Water Utilities Department Equipment Rental 801-3003-6014 or Equipment Maintenance 801-3004-6402]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Sciaraffa not present for voting.

- Item No. 42 Discussion and possible action to approve rental of one LPG tank in the amount of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$120.00) per year (to be located at lift station #3, 1412 Espejo Molina Rd., between Rio Bravo & El Cenizo, TX) and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Water Utilities Department Equipment Rental 801-3003-6014 or Equipment Maintenance 801-3004-6402]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Sciaraffa not present for voting.

- Item No. 43 Discussion and possible action to order a tax abatement for and enter into a tax abatement contract with Midwest Sterilization Corporation, limited for property located at 12010 General Milton Drive, being lots 9 & 10 Block 13, Unit 15, Killam Industrial Park, Laredo, Webb County, Texas, pursuant to the Texas Property Redevelopment Tax Abatement Act, V.A.T.S. Tax Code, Chapter 312, as amended, and Resolution of the Webb County Commissioners Court Passed January 22, 1999 (electing to become eligible to participate in tax abatements), for a

term of five year beginning January 1, 2005 and ending December 31, 2009 and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item with discussion. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Cmr. Gutierrez stated that this abatement followed the necessary schedule. She stated that by employing 50 workers, it would allow them to receive 25% tax abatement for five years.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 44 Discussion and possible action to enter into a lease agreement with Autophone of Laredo, Inc. for tower space on the Autophone north tower at a cost of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) per month or any portion of a month for a two month period with two one month options to renew to commence upon the replacement of the County's Botines tower and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 46 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfers:

From:	001-1120-5001	Pay roll	\$16,500.00
To:	001-1120-5005	Part-Time Temporary	\$16,500.00

Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, County Clerk, stated that the monies were available since one of her full time employees has been out on a Workmen's Compensation claim and her office needs to be able to hire someone on a temporary basis. Cmr. Gutierrez stated that due to the extenuating circumstances, she did not see any problems with this matter.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Cmr. Garza inquired as to when the employee was expected to return. Mrs. Ibarra stated that she did not know but did not feel that it would be anytime soon.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 47 Discussion and possible action to approve a request from the Tax Assessor- Collector's Office, Dept. 0700:

Refund due as follows:

Mobile Prop TX & NM Inc., c/o Property Tax Division
PO Box 4973, Houston, TX 77210-4973

Acct #990-003567-6000

Reason: Supp. 8 Cert. 2004 Protest 2000-2078/4878 determined on 03/17/05 for years 2000/2001

Total Refund: \$6,164.50

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 48 Discussion and possible action to approve a request from the Tax Assessor-Collector's Office, Dept. 0700:

Refund due as follows:

Alexander Investments

3120 Vidaurri St., Laredo, TX 78040-1029

Reason: Land & Improvements Double Assessed with the same account number for years 2000-2004

Total Refund: \$4,287.70

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 49 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Webb County Self-Help Center to acquire City of Laredo Building Permit to construct a concrete reinforce compressed block demonstration building to be located adjacent to the Self-Help Center off HWY 359. This building will be used as a Tool Library for the Self-Help Center. The Self-Help Center has partnered up with the Texas A & M College of Architecture College Station for the building design, foundation plans / specification and concrete reinforce compressed block composition. (This will have no impact on the general fund.)

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 50 Discussion and possible action to submit a contract time extension to the Office of Rural Community Affairs for the Webb County Rio Bravo Housing Rehabilitation Program Contract #719000 up to November 10, 2005. (The contract extension will not have any impact on the general fund.)

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 51 Discussion and possible action on authorizing the submission of a Contract Extension to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs HOME Program Contract No. 1000038. The contract extension is needed to allow for the completion of housing rehabilitation/reconstruction activities. The contract extension will move the contract end date from August 31, 2005 to August 31, 2006. The contract extension will not impact the County's general fund.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 52 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfers:

From:	001-6101-6403	Maintenance Vehicle	\$400.00
To:	001-6101-6401	Maintenance Building	\$400.00
From:	001-6101-6203	Fuel Lubricant	\$600.00
To:	001-6101-6401	Maintenance Building	\$400.00

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Cmr. Sciaraffa stated that the amount being transferred from 6203 to 6401 should be \$600.00.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 53 Discussion and possible action to fill slot #599, (General Assistance) from within the County up to \$ 9.47 per hour effective June 13, 2005.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 54 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-1040-6014	Equipment Rental	\$500
	001-1040-6402	Equipment Maintenance	\$500
To:	001-1040-5601	Administrative Travel	\$1000

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 55 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-1043-5601	Administrative Travel	\$550.00
To:	001-1043-6402	Equipment Maintenance	\$550.00

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 56 Discussion and Possible action to approve a transfer of \$1,000.00 from the Building Maintenance to the Vehicle Maintenance line item for the Larga Vista Community Center.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 57 Discussion and possible action to fill slot # 2128 (PC Service Technician II) at \$12.08 per hour effective June 14, 2005.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 58 Discussion and Possible action to issue "Certification(s) Regarding Compliance with Plat Requirements and the Connection of Utilities" to authorize utility connection(s) to the following site(s)
Connection(s) qualifying under Section 232.028(a) and (b):
1. Lots 8, 10, and 12, Block 35, Mirando Subdivision (authorize electricity and water).

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 59 Discussion and possible action to purchase office furniture for Constable Pct. 4 in the amount of \$6,720.96 from Executive Office Supply.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion with discussion.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that the monies were available from Capital Outlay allocated to this department.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 60 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to contract with Simplex/Grinnell in the amount of \$10,112.00 for Fire Alarm Detection Systems annual inspection for the following buildings: Webb County Administration Building, Webb County Agriculture Building, Webb County Courthouse, Webb County J.P. Oscar Martinez, Pct. 4 and Webb County Justice Center.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that county buildings have Simplex Systems and Simplex/Grinnell does maintenance for these systems. Judge Bruni requested that he wants any new county building alarm systems and equipment to go out for RFPs.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 61 Discussion and possible action to dispose of surplus computer equipment, approximately one hundred and sixty (160) pieces for an estimated cost of \$3,000.00.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that old monitors cannot be disposed in the land fill due to mercury but that a Houston company will come down and dispose of the equipment for a fee of \$15.00 each.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 62 Discussion and possible action to award/reject the following bids and proposal:

Bid No. 2005-64 El Cenizo Paving and Storm Drainage Project Phase I

Bid No. 2005-65 One (1) 30-Passenger School Bus

Bid No. 2005-51 Window A/C Units, Space Heaters and Installation of Refrigerators

Prop. No. 2005-08 Engineering Services for Vela Tract Project

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, made the following recommendations:

2005-64 Gilbert of Texas Construction

2005-65 The One Bus Stop Inc.

2005-51 Chavarrias Plumbing

2005-08 Defer since committee has not met on this item.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to award the bid 2005-64, 2005-65 and 2005-51 as recommended by Mr. Ramirez. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to defer 2005-08. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 63 Discussion and possible action to obtain the services of Gilbert Texas Construction, L.P. to install guardrails at two (2) lift stations on Espejo Molina road in the amount of Seven Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Dollars (\$7,540.00).

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 65 Discussion and possible action to solicit bids for two (2) vehicles for the Webb County Morgue.

Cmr. Gutierrez stated that the monies were available in the budget and that the purchase of these vehicles would save the county in costs paid to transport the bodies to Bexar County. Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that one of the vehicles being requested was a $\frac{3}{4}$ ton 4x4 pick up truck with a refrigerated unit and the other would be a cargo van with the equipment and supplies needed to conduct an investigation and to pick up the bodies. He stated that this would be manned by the Sheriff's department. He stated that the estimated cost for the pick up truck would be \$28,000 plus an additional \$3-8,000 for the refrigerated unit and \$16-18,000 for the cargo van. He stated that he would bring any bids received before the court. He stated that local funeral homes currently provide the transportation to Bexar County. Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, stated that there is not a specific funeral home used but that it depends on who is called to the scene. He stated that the average charge is \$300 to take the body to the morgue, \$350 to take the body from the morgue to Bexar and \$350 to bring the body back from Bexar County. Mr. Raul Casso, Chief of Staff, stated that the expense increases every year by approximately \$50,000 a year and the current expense for this year is \$300,000. He stated that different funeral homes charge different fees. Mr. Ramirez stated that he is only requesting authorization to request bids and that they can be rejected by the court.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to table this item pending a cost analysis, who would man the equipment and bring the item back in two weeks. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Cmr. Sciaraffa retracted his motion.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to request bids and bring a report on the cost and expense and who would man the vehicles. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 66 Discussion and possible action to solicit bid proposals for architectural services for the alterations of the Webb County former Corrections

Restitution Treatment Center (CRTC) requested by Commissioner Frank Sciaraffa, Pct. 1.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, stated that this item was to solicit bids.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 67 Discussion and possible action to award Quality Fence Builders in the amount of \$6,887.00 for the installation of 3,550 linear feet of a ranch fence for La Presa Subdivision.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 68 Discussion and possible action to solicit bids for the rehabilitation of the following homes through the Neighborhood Initiative Program.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Guadalupe García
1417 Margarita Lane
Río Bravo, Texas 78046 | 2. María G. Campos
1843 Centeno Lane
Río Bravo, Texas 78046 |
| 3. Juan M. Ponce
1225 Paseo De Neva
Río Bravo, Texas 78046 | 4. Paula Briceño
734 Margarita Lane
Río Bravo, Texas 78046 |
| 5. Margarita Torres
1714 Centeno
Río Bravo, Texas 78046 | |

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 69 Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to become a member and participate in the Texas Building and Procurement Commission Cooperative Purchasing Program pursuant to Section 271-081- 271.083 Local Government Code, V.T.C.A., Section 2155.202 and 2175.001 (1) of the Texas Government Code, Title 10 Subtitle D.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 70 Discussion and possible action to solicit Request for Qualifications for a Public Information Officer for Webb County

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 71 Discussion and possible action to authorize the following line items transfers:

From:	Administrative Travel	001-0103-5601	\$1,000.00
	Training and Education	001-0103-6011	\$700.00
To:	Fuel & Lubricants	001-0103-6204	\$300.00
	Materials & Supplies	001-0103-6205	\$200.00
	Repairs & Maintenance Vehicles	001-0103-6403	
			\$1,200.00

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 72 Discussion and possible action to amend fund 010, Road & Bridge Dept. by allowing the transfers listed below:

From:	010-7003-6205	Materials & Supplies	\$20,000.00
To:	010-7002-6405	Road Maintenance	\$20,000.00

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 78 Discussion and possible action to approve Pledge Agreement with Commerce Bank whose securities will secure the deposit of Webb County Depository monies with said bank and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Cortez-Brunner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 89 Adjournment

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to adjourn. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.